

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the subject patent application.

Listing of Claims

1 (currently amended): An orthotic pad for reducing pressure and shear stresses on dermal and muscle tissue in a selected treatment area extending over a bony prominence, comprising a hydrocolloid-containing adhesive body having oppositely-facing non-parallel first and second major surfaces and comprising a soft, deformable and shape-recoverable adhesive material in which particles of at least one moisture-absorbing and moisture-swellaable hydrocolloid material are dispersed;

said first surface being contoured to match the contour of said treatment area for adhesively engaging and covering said area;

said second surface being adapted to match a support surface upon which the treatment area would contact in the absence of said orthotic pad or is of a developed shape for corrective redistribution of external forces exertable against said treatment area ~~having a selected shape different than said contour of said first surface;~~

and a protective layer covering said second surface.

2 (original): The orthotic pad of claim 1 in which said protective layer is of substantially uniform thickness and conforms with said surface shape of said second surface.

3 (original): The orthotic pad of claims 1 or 2 in which said protective layer is flexible.

4 (original): The orthotic pad of claims 1 or 2 in which said protective layer is rigid.

5 (original): The orthotic pad of claims 1 or 2 in which said second surface is generally planar.

6 (currently amended): The orthotic pad of claims 1 or 2 in which said second surface is non-planar ~~and of a developed shape for corrective redistribution of external forces exertable against said treatment area.~~

7 (currently amended): A foot orthotic for reducing pressure and shear stresses on dermal and muscle tissue in and about a wound area of treatment, comprising a hydrocolloid-containing adhesive body having oppositely facing non-parallel first and second major surfaces and comprising a soft, deformable and shape-recoverable adhesive material in which particles of at least one moisture-absorbing and moisture-swellaable hydrocolloid material are dispersed;

said first surface being contoured to match the contour of said treatment area for adhesively engaging ~~covering~~ said area; and

said second surface being adapted to match a support surface upon which the treatment area would contact in the absence of said foot orthotic or is of a developed shape for corrective redistribution of external forces exertable against said treatment area.

8 (original): The foot orthotic of claim 7 in which said protective layer is of said substantially uniform thickness and conforms with said surface shape of said second surface.

9 (original): The foot orthotic of claims 7 or 8 in which said second surface is generally planar.

10 (currently amended): The foot orthotic of claims 7 or 8 in which said second surface is non-planar ~~and of a developed shape for corrective redistribution of external forces exertable against said treatment area.~~

11 (new): An orthotic pad for reducing pressure and shear stresses on dermal and muscle tissue in a selected treatment area extending over a bony prominence, comprising a hydrocolloid-containing adhesive body having oppositely-facing first and second major surfaces and comprising a soft, deformable and shape-recoverable adhesive material in which particles of at least one moisture-absorbing and moisture-swellaable hydrocolloid material are dispersed;

said first major surface being a non-planar surface;

said second major surface being non-parallel to said first surface; and

a protective layer covering said second surface.

12 (new): The orthotic pad of claim 12, having a differing thickness throughout an outline area of the hydrocolloid-containing adhesive body.
